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Locher et al. 09/068,278

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re:

**US** Patent Application

PCT Application Serial Number:

International Filing Date:

Applicant:

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Box Response Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231 09/068,278 TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

PCT/EP97/05216

September 23, 1997

Locher et al.

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In response to the Office Action mailed June 23, 2000, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

In the Claims:

39. (Amended): [A cable insulation stripping] The apparatus as claimed in claim 88, comprising:

a pair of tool supports (1,2) for holding at least two tools (3) in pairs, and a tool support feed [means] (5) for lateral positioning of at least one of said at least two tools (3a, b, c, d) above a first transport path (100) along which a cable (107) whose insulation is to be stripped can be inserted in its feed direction, wherein

said tool support feed [means] (5) is formed for a controlled lateral drive for controlled sideward movement of at least one of said pair of tool supports (1,2) to any desired position within a working range laterally with respect to said transport path (100).

40. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim [39] 88, wherein said tools have upper and lower positions, comprising a separate tool support feed [means] (5a, b) [is] coordinated with each tool support (1,2) so that said upper and lower positions of said at least two tools (3) can be combined.

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